

## NOTES FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE FAMILY DEVOTION

This family devotion is meant to be conducted on New Year's Eve. A suggested setting would be the family dinner table or living room. It would be helpful to prepare your family for this Devotion by sharing with them the reasons for having such a Family Devotion. If your family has not had the habit of conducting family devotions, this might be a way to start.

This Family Devotion is specially designed to facilitate an informal family gathering for parents with children who otherwise cannot make it for Watch-night Service. It should take around 30 to 45 minutes. The main thing is to keep to the objective of the Devotion, which is an occasion for the family to reflect and review together the past year, and to usher in the new year by way of re-dedication to the Lord.

### Things to prepare beforehand:

1. A copy of the Order of Family Devotion (for you the leader).
2. Computer or equivalent to play the songs and video of the homily.
3. A print out of the worksheet (found on the last page of this document).

### Order:

1. Word of Greeting and Opening Prayer by leader
2. Song:
3. Sharing and Praying Together
4. Hear the Word: Homily by Brother Joel Khoo
5. Response Song:
6. Prayer of Covenant Renewal

**Tips for Sharing and Praying Together.** The sharing may be framed around the following questions:

- What are some things in the last year you are thankful for?
- What are some things you found difficult or challenging?
- What do you look forward to most in the New Year?

You may want to ask your family to prepare their answers beforehand, or everyone can just be given a piece of paper there and then to write their response down. You should prepare what you want to share beforehand, and lead by example in being the first to share. Close the sharing with prayer for one another.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE FAMILY DEVOTION, 2021

### **1. Word of Greeting and Prayer**

*Heavenly Father, we thank you for being faithful to us throughout the year. Thank you for the Lord Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross, that we can gather as your people. Help us tonight as we testify to your goodness in our lives this year, as we renew our commitment to keep living for you. Bless our time as we share. And may your Spirit soften our hearts as we hear your Word. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

### **2. Song: All Praise to Him [ <https://youtu.be/eWeZSE66ODU> ]**

### **3. Sharing & Praying Together**

[Refer to tips on previous page]

### **4. Hear the Word – Scripture Reading and Homily**

Leader:

*Our Scripture reading for today is taken from Philippians 3:12-21 [Read in unison or responsively]*

[Play Youtube video of Homily: <https://youtu.be/PfBGiZJriho> ]

### **5. Response Song: Undivided [ <https://youtu.be/VDONoMVnzMA> ]**

### **6. Post-sermon Discussion**

[Refer to worksheet on the next page]

### **7. Prayer of covenant renewal (Read Aloud Together to close)**

*I am no longer my own, but yours.*

*Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will;*

*put me to doing, put me to suffering;*

*let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,*

*exalted for you, or brought low for you;*

*let me be full, let me be empty,*

*let me have all things, let me have nothing:*

*I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal.*

*And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
you are mine and I am yours. So be it.*

*And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.*

*Amen.*

**NEW YEAR'S EVE FAMILY DEVOTION 2021 – Worksheet**

**Intro question:** What are some goals you have for 2022? Write or draw them here!

**Notes (use this space to write down any thoughts from the homily!)**

What is our goal as Christians?

How do you reach this goal?

What are the consequences if we don't?

**2 outcomes:**

Enemies of the Cross (v18-19)	Philippians (v20-21)

**Discussion Questions:**

1. How does this goal of reaching the day of Jesus' return affect the goals you've set earlier?
  
2. How might we have been distracted by earthly things? How can we be pressing on single-mindedly towards the day of Jesus' return?
  
3. As a family, how can we encourage each other to keep pressing on?